15

17 *Martii*, 1646.

The Humble

PETITION

OF

The Lord Major, Aldermen and Commons of the City of *London* in Common-Councel assembled, this day delivered

TO

The Honorable, The Commons

Assembled in

PARLIAMENT.

WITH

The ANSWER of the Honorable House of Commons thereunto.

ORdered by the Commons assembled in Parliament, That this Petition, *with the* Answer, *be forthwith printed and published:*

H: Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

LONDON, Printed for *Edward Husband*, Printer to the Honorable House of Commons. MARCH 18. 1646.

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Die Mercurii, 17 Martii, 1646.

THe *House being informed, That divers of the Aldermen and Common Counsel were at the Door, desiring to prefer a Petition to this House, they were called in, and Sheriff* Edmonds *did acquaint the House, That they were appointed by the Lord Major, Aldermen and Common Counsel of the City of* London, *to prefer this their Petition to this House; The Petition was stiled,* The humble Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Counsel assembled: *The Petitioners being withdrawn, The Petition was read, and likewise the Copy of a Petition annexed, which is the same with that printed Copy which was informed against, and brought in to this House on Monday last.*

To the Honorable,
The House of Commons assembled in the High Court of Parliament.

The humble Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London *in Common Councel assembled:*

HUmbly acknowledging the hopeful progress which this Honorable House hath made upon some particulars of the former Addresses of the Petitioners, wherein as they are confident you will still go forward, so they humbly crave pardon if they continue their importunity for such an effectual and speedy resolution upon the whole, as may, with Gods blessing, at length settle the Affairs of this long distracted Kingdom.

And now that His Majesty is come nearer in Person to His Parliament of *England*, the Petitioners would gladly entertain some hope, and cannot but earnestly desire, That God would also bring His Royal heart and will nearer to this His chief and greatest Councel:

And

And that His Majesty will now be perswaded to joyn with His Parliament and all His People in the National and Solemn League and Covenant, and give satisfaction in the matter of Propositions which the Parliaments of both Nations shall make unto Him, for the full assurance of His People in the future, and the firm establishment of the Peace and Union of this Kingdom in Church and Commonwealth; without both which the Petitioners cannot expect any firm or real Peace in this Kingdom.

And that His Majesty may be the better disposed to this Conjunction, and the Parliament and this City in the interim secured, the Petitioners humbly offer it unto the wisdom of this Honorable House to take course, That such as have been in opposition to the Parliament may be removed out of this City, and be kept at a distance from His Majesties Royal Presence.

These are the Hopes and Prayers of the Petitioners, which they humbly pray may be as favorably accepted and interpreted, as they proceed from a sincere heart; That which the Petitioners intend hereby, is, still more and more to manifest their Integrity to the Parliament, to stop the malicious Tongues of Sectaries on the one party, who have from the

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Petitioners late humble Addreſſes, ſuggeſted ſome defection in the City; and to cut off the vain hopes of Malignants, and ſuch as have been in oppoſition to the Parliament, on the other party; That they can expect no compliance from the Petitioners. For the Petitioners do for themſelves, and the whole City whom they repreſent, Declare unto the whole World, That they ſtill are, and with Gods bleſſing are reſolved ſo to remain, in their Zeal as fervent, and in their Reſpects as humble and real to the Parliament as ever. And according to their Covenant, do next under God wholly relie upon the Wiſdom and Juſtice of the Parliament for the ſettlement of their Peace and Proſperity.

And the Petitioners humbly pray, That this Honorable Houſe will give no credit to any Repreſentation of the minde and ſence of the City, contrary unto this their ſolemn Profeſſion, although even ſome of thoſe who ſerve for the City, or are free thereof, or any others, ſhould make any other Repreſentation of the ſame.

Here the Petitioners ſhould willingly have concluded, but that the Army (which they hoped ſhould ere this have been disbanded) is now drawn ſo ſuddenly, and quartered ſo near the Parliament and this City: Beſides that in the ſame juncture of time, a moſt dangerous and ſeditious Petition (as they humbly conceive) is ſet on foot, to be preſented to this Honorable Houſe; the Copy whereof, as it was delivered to them, is annexed: which doth

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exact this addition from the Petitioners; That this Honorable Houſe would conſider, what effect the unexpected approach of ſuch an Army, and the concurrence of ſuch a Petition may work in the People; How long time all maner of Proviſions have been dear and ſcarce in this City; How much the ſame muſt needs be encreaſed, when ſuch an Army muſt be fed, before they can expect to be ſerved thence, and what murmure the ſame may raiſe amongſt ſo great a multitude of Poor, as are already, and do daily encreaſe in this City.

And then that this Honorable Houſe would be pleaſed to give Command that the Army may be forthwith removed, and after with all convenient ſpeed Diſbanded, That the Petition annexed may be out of hand ſuppreſſed, and the Contrivers and Promoters thereof enquired after; And, that the Parliament and this City may in the mean time be preſerved in ſafety: That this Honorable Houſe would pleaſe to give the Court authority, to make Annual Election of the Members of the Militia *of this City, according to their late Petition.*

And the Petitioners ſhall daily pray, &c.

MICHEL.

THe Petitioners were again called in, and Mr. Speaker acquainted them, That the House had considered of the particulars in the Petition; and that the House had already most of the particulars under consideration, and have appointed a time to take the rest into consideration, and do resolve to proceed in such maner with them, as may be most for the ease, safety and satisfaction of the City and the whole Kingdom; That a copy of the Petition annexed was lately brought to this House, and that they had put it into a way of consideration: He further acquainted the Petitioners, That he was commanded to tell them, That the House take very special notice of the declaration and expressions of the Petitioners, and by them of the whole Cities constant, fervent, real and sincere affections to the service of the Parliament: The seasonableness of these expressions addes some weight unto them, it being at such a conjuncture of time, when the enemies both to the Parliament and City, did raise to themselves vain and groundless hopes of some misunderstanding between this House and the City, The contrary whereof this will sufficiently manifest; For which he is commanded to give them the hearty thanks of this House.

H: Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

FINIS.